

Attorney Docket No. IVD 994 US PCT

Reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Technology Center 1600**Claim Amendments:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended): A solid pharmaceutical composition in tablet form for oral administration comprising a benzofuran derivative with antiarrhythmic activity, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as an active principle, and a pharmaceutically acceptable nonionic hydrophilic surfactant selected from poloxamers, optionally in combination with one or more pharmaceutical excipients, said nonionic hydrophilic surfactant being present in a proportion of from 5% to 15% ~~1% to 50%~~ by weight of the active principle in base form.

Claim 2. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the benzofuran derivative is dronedarone hydrochloride.

Claim 3. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the benzofuran derivative is amiodarone hydrochloride.

Claim 4. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 14 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is the hydrochloride.

Claim 5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1 ~~Claim 5~~ wherein the nonionic hydrophilic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxamer 124, poloxamer 188, poloxamer 237, poloxamer 338, and poloxamer 407, ~~polyserbate 20, polyserbate 40, polyserbate 60, polyserbate 80 and the products Cremophor® RH 40 and Solutol® HS 15.~~

Claim 7. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15 wherein the nonionic hydrophilic surfactant is poloxamer 407.

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Claims 8-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6 containing from 50 to 500 mg of active principle.

Claim 12. (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, ~~in tablet or gelatin capsule form,~~ containing from 200 to 400 mg of active principle.

Claim 13. (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 12, ~~in tablet or gelatin capsule form,~~ containing from 200 to 400 mg of active principle, calculated in base form, and 10% by weight of nonionic hydrophilic surfactant relative to the active principle in base form.

Claim 14. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1 wherein the benzofuran derivative is selected from the group consisting of amiodarone and dronedarone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 15. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6 wherein the benzofuran derivative is selected from the group consisting of amiodarone and dronedarone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 16. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7 wherein the benzofuran derivative is dronedarone hydrochloride.

Claim 17. (Canceled):

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Claim 18. (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6 ~~Claim 17~~ wherein the nonionic hydrophilic surfactant is poloxamer 407.

Claim 19. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 18 wherein the benzofuran derivative is dronedarone hydrochloride.

Claim 20. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13 wherein the active principle is selected from the group consisting of amiodarone and dronedarone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 21. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 wherein the nonionic hydrophilic surfactant is poloxamer 407.

Claim 22. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21 wherein the active principle is dronedarone hydrochloride.